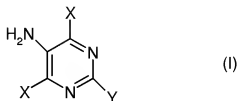


**In the Claims:**

The current status of all claims is listed below and supersedes all previous lists of claims.

Please amend claims 1, 3-6, 8, 9, 11, 14, 16, and 17, and add new claims 19 and 20 as follows.

1. (currently amended) A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I):



wherein

X is halogen;

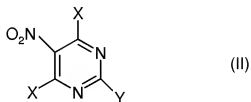
Y is ZR<sup>1</sup>;

Z is oxygen or sulphur; and

R<sup>1</sup> is C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> haloalkyl or C<sub>3-7</sub> cycloalkyl;

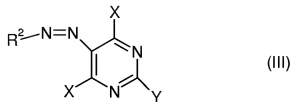
the process comprising either:

a. hydrogenating a compound of formula (II):



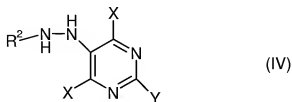
with a suitable transition metal catalyst in a C<sub>1-6</sub> aliphatic alcohol, an ether, an ester or a hydrocarbon as solvent; or,

b. conducting a one-pot hydrogenation of a compound of formula (III):



wherein  $R^2$  is phenyl optionally substituted by chloro,  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl,  $C_{1-6}$  alkoxy or  $(C_{1-6} \text{ alkyl})_2N$ ;

(i) firstly at about  $20^\circ\text{C}$  to form a compound of formula (IV):



(ii) and then at about  $40^\circ\text{C}$ ;

both steps (i) and (ii) being carried out in the presence of a suitable catalyst and in the presence of a suitable solvent.

2. (original) A process as claimed in claim 1 wherein X is chloro.
3. (currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~ wherein Z is sulphur.
4. (currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 1, ~~2 or 3~~ wherein  $R^1$  is  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl or  $C_{1-4}$  haloalkyl.
5. (currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 1, ~~2, 3 or 4~~ wherein Y is  $ZR^1$ ; Z is sulphur; and  $R^1$  is n-propyl.
6. (currently amended) A process as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1 wherein the transition metal catalyst for the hydrogenation of a compound of formula (II) is selected from platinum, palladium and a combination of platinum with a transition metal selected from vanadium, iron and manganese.
7. (original) A process as claimed claim 6 wherein the transition metal catalyst is on a carbon support.

8. (currently amended) A process as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1 wherein the solvent for the hydrogenation of a compound of formula (II) is a C<sub>1-6</sub> aliphatic alcohol, an ether, an ester or a hydrocarbon solvent.
9. (currently amended) A process as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1 wherein the hydrogenation of a compound of formula (II) is conducted at a temperature in the range 10 to 90°C.
10. (original) A process as claimed in claim 9 wherein the hydrogenation of a compound of formula (II) is conducted at a temperature in the range 20 to 40°C.
11. (currently amended) A process as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 10~~ claim 1 wherein the hydrogenation of a compound of formula (II) is conducted at a pressure of 1 to 10 bar.
12. (original) A process as claimed in claim 10 wherein the hydrogenation of a compound of formula (II) is conducted at a pressure of 2 to 4 bar.
13. (original) A process as claimed in claim 1 for the preparation of a compound of formula (I) in which X is chloro, Y is ZR<sup>1</sup>; Z is sulphur; and R<sup>1</sup> is n-propyl; the process comprising hydrogenating a compound of formula (II) in solvent comprising an ether at a pressure of 2 to 4 bar, a temperature in the range 20 to 40°C and a Pt/V/C catalyst.
14. (currently amended) A process as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1 wherein the catalyst for the one-pot hydrogenation is selected from platinum and a mixture of platinum and vanadium.
15. (original) A process as claimed in claim 13 wherein the catalyst for the one-pot hydrogenation is selected from platinum on carbon 5-15%w/w; platinum 2-10%w/w and vanadium 0.2-3%w/w on carbon.

16. (currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 12, ~~13 or 14~~ wherein the solvent for the one-pot hydrogenation is selected from a C<sub>1-6</sub> aliphatic alcohol, an ester, an ether, a hydrocarbon and a ketone.

17. (currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 13, ~~14 or 15~~ wherein the hydrogenation of a compound of formula (III) or (IV) is conducted at a pressure of 2 to 4 bar.

18. (original) A process as claimed in claim 1 for the preparation of a compound of formula (I) in which X is chloro, Y is ZR<sup>1</sup>; Z is sulphur; and R<sup>1</sup> is n-propyl; the process comprising a one-pot hydrogenation of a compound of formula (III) wherein the hydrogenation is conducted in a solvent of ethyl acetate at a pressure of 2 to 4 bar and using a Pt/C catalyst.

19. (new) A process as claimed in claim 1 wherein:

X is chloro;

Z is sulphur;

R<sup>1</sup> is n-propyl;

the transition metal catalyst for the hydrogenation of a compound of formula (II) is selected from platinum, palladium and a combination of platinum with a transition metal selected from vanadium, iron and manganese; and

the solvent for the hydrogenation of a compound of formula (II) is a C<sub>1-6</sub> aliphatic alcohol, an ether, an ester or a hydrocarbon solvent;

20. (new) A process as claimed in claim 19 wherein:

the hydrogenation of the compound of formula (II) is conducted at a temperature in the range 20 to 40°C;

the hydrogenation of the compound of formula (II) is conducted at a pressure of 2 to 4 bar;

the catalyst for the one-pot hydrogenation is selected from platinum on carbon 5-15%w/w, platinum 2-10%w/w and vanadium 0.2-3%w/w on carbon; and

the hydrogenation of the compound of formula (III) or (IV) is conducted at a pressure of 2 to 4 bar.